

CLAIMS

1. Use of at least one unsaponifiable component of vegetable oil for the preparation of a medicament intended to stimulate the expression of TGF- $\beta$  or the expression of the plasminogen activator inhibitor PAI-1.
2. Use according to Claim 1, characterized in that the medicament is intended to stimulate the expression of TGF- $\beta$ .
3. Use according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the medicament is intended to stimulate the expression of the isoforms TGF- $\beta$ 1 and TGF- $\beta$ 2.
4. Use according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the medicament is intended to stimulate the expression of TGF- $\beta$  via the DNA sequences situated between -1132 and -732 bp of the promoter of TGF- $\beta$ .
5. Use according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the medicament is intended to stimulate the expression of TGF- $\beta$  via the DNA sequences situated between -1132 and -732 bp of the promoter of the isoform TGF- $\beta$ 1.
6. Use according to Claim 1, characterized in that the medicament is intended to stimulate the expression of the plasminogen activator inhibitor PAI-1.
7. Use according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the unsaponifiable component of vegetable oil is chosen from the group consisting of the unsaponifiable component of avocado oil, the unsaponifiable component of soya bean oil, the unsaponifiable component of lupin oil and mixtures of the latter.
8. Use according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the unsaponifiable component of vegetable oil is the unsaponifiable component of avocado oil.
9. Use according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the unsaponifiable

component of vegetable oil is the unsaponifiable component of dry-avocado oil.

10. Use according to Claim 8 or 9, characterized in that the unsaponifiable component of avocado comprises 5 at least its fraction enriched with furan derivatives (fraction H), its fraction enriched with polyhydroxylated fatty alcohols (fraction I) or a mixture of these fractions.

11. Use according to any one of Claims 1 to 7, 10 characterized in that the unsaponifiable component of vegetable oil is the unsaponifiable component of soya bean oil.

12. Use according to any one of Claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the unsaponifiable component of 15 vegetable oil is the unsaponifiable component of lupin oil.

13. Use according to any one of Claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the unsaponifiable component of vegetable oil contains fractions rich in phytosterols, 20 tocopherols, tocotrienols, terpenic and triterpenic hydrocarbons, and natural antioxidants.

14. Use according to Claim 13, characterized in that the unsaponifiable component of vegetable oil is chosen from the group consisting of the unsaponifiable 25 component of canola, rapeseed, sunflower, palm, maize, sesame or wheatgerm oil, or the unsaponifiable component of soya bean oil, and mixtures of the latter.

15. Use according to any one of Claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the unsaponifiable component of 30 vegetable oil is a mixture of unsaponifiable component of avocado oil and of unsaponifiable component of soya bean oil, the weight ratio of unsaponifiable component of avocado oil to the unsaponifiable component of soya bean oil being between about 0.1 and about 9.

35 16. Use according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the unsaponifiable component of vegetable oil is present in the medicament in a proportion of between about 1 and about 80% by weight, relative to the total weight of the medicament.

17. Use according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the medicament comprises, in addition, a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient suitable for administration by the oral, external topical, enteral or parenteral route.
- 5 18. Use according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the medicament comprises, in addition, a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient suitable for administration by the oral route.
- 10 19. Use according to any one of Claims 1 to 18, characterized in that the medicament is intended for the treatment of conditions of the joints.
- 15 20. Use according to Claim 19, characterized in that the medicament is intended for the treatment of osteoarthritis.
21. Use according to Claim 19, characterized in that the medicament is intended for the treatment of arthritis.
22. Use according to any one of Claims 1 to 18, 20 characterized in that the medicament is intended for the treatment of parodontal conditions.
23. Use according to Claim 22, characterized in that the medicament is intended for the treatment of periodontitis.
- 25 24. Use according to any one of Claims 1 to 18, characterized in that the medicament is intended for the treatment of osteoporosis.
- 25 30. Use according to any one of Claims 1 to 18, characterized in that the medicament is intended for modulating the differentiation of nerve cells induced by NGF.
26. Use according to any one of Claims 1 to 18, characterized in that the medicament is intended for tissue repair.
- 35 27. Use according to Claim 26, characterized in that the medicament is intended for skin tissue repair.
28. Use according to any one of Claims 1 to 18, characterized in that the medicament is intended to stimulate the biosynthesis of collagen.

29. Use according to Claim 28, characterized in that the medicament is intended to stimulate the biosynthesis of collagen by the dermal fibroblasts.

30. Use according to Claim 28 or 29, characterized in that the medicament is intended for the reconstruction of the extracellular matrix.

5 31. Use according to Claim 28 or 29, characterized in that the medicament is intended for the treatment of disorders of the extracellular matrix linked to skin 10 ageing.

32. Method of cosmetic treatment of scars on the skin, of the neighbouring mucous membranes and/or of the superficial body growths, characterized in that a cosmetic composition comprising at least one 15 unsaponifiable component of vegetable oil and at least one cosmetically acceptable vehicle is applied to the skin, the neighbouring mucous membranes and/or the superficial body growths.

33. Method of cosmetic treatment of intrinsic 20 ageing of the skin, of the neighbouring mucous membranes and/or of the superficial body growths, characterized in that a cosmetic composition comprising at least one unsaponifiable component of vegetable oil and at least one cosmetically acceptable vehicle is 25 applied to the skin, the neighbouring mucous membranes and/or the superficial body growths.

34. Method of cosmetic treatment of the skin, of the neighbouring mucous membranes and/or of the superficial body growths which have been subjected to 30 an actinic ray, characterized in that a cosmetic composition comprising at least one unsaponifiable component of vegetable oil and at least one cosmetically acceptable vehicle is applied to the skin, the neighbouring mucous membranes and/or the 35 superficial body growths.

35. Method of cosmetic depilatory treatment of the skin, characterized in that a cosmetic composition comprising at least one unsaponifiable component of

vegetable oil and at least one cosmetically acceptable vehicle is applied to the skin.

36. Method according to any one of Claims 32 to 35, characterized in that the unsaponifiable component of 5 vegetable oil is as defined in any one of Claims 7 to 12.

37. Method according to any one of Claims 32 to 36, characterized in that the unsaponifiable component of 10 vegetable oil is present in the cosmetic composition in a proportion of between about 0.1 and about 10% by weight, relative to the total weight of the cosmetic composition.

38. Use of at least one unsaponifiable component of 15 vegetable oil as additive in a food for human beings and/or for animals.

39. Use according to Claim 38, characterized in that the unsaponifiable component of vegetable oil is as defined in any one of Claims 7 to 15.

40. Use according to Claim 38 or 39, characterized 20 in that the unsaponifiable component of vegetable oil is present in the food in a proportion of between about 0.1 and about 20% by weight, relative to the total weight of the food.